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From Tuesday January 5. to Saturday January 9. 1724.

AT the Court at St. *James's*, the 7th Day of *January*, 1724.

PRESENT,

The King's moſt Excellent Majeſty in Council.

His Majeſty having conſtituted the Right Honourable Sir Joſeph Jekyll, Kt. Maſter of the Rolls, Jefferay Gilbert, Eſq; one of the Barons of His Majeſty's Court of Exchequer, and Sir Robert Raymond, Kt. one of the Juſtices of His Majeſty's Court of King's-Bench, Lords Commiſſioners for the Cuſtody of the Great Seal, was this Day pleaſed in Council to deliver to them the Great Seal of Great Britain; and the ſaid Lords Commiſſioners did thereupon take the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and alſo the Oath as Lords Commiſſioners for the Cuſtody of the Great Seal. And His Majeſty conferred the Honour of Knighthood on Jefferay Gilbert, Eſq;

After which His Majeſty was pleaſed to expreſs himſelf to the ſaid Lords Commiſſioners in the Words following, viz.

" I have had ſuch Experience of your Integri-
" ty and Ability, that it is with Pleaſure I now
" put the Great Seal into your Hands. You
" are fully informed of the State of the Ac-
" compts of the Maſters in Chancery; I earneſt-
" ly recommend to you the taking effectual
" Care that entire Satisfaction be made to the
" Suitors of the Court, and that they be not
" expoſed to any Dangers for the future; and
" I have ſuch Confidence in your faithful Diſ-
" charge of the Truſt I now repoſe in you,
" that I am perſwaded you will look narrowly
" into the Behaviour of all the Officers under
" your Juriſdiction, and will ſee that they act
" with the ſtricteſt Regard to Juſtice, and to
" the Eaſe of my Subjects.

Vienna, Dec. 30, *N. S.* Letters from Conſtantinople of the 25th of laſt Month relate, that the Turkiſh Army commanded by the Governour of Van, having advanced to Tauris, made an Aſſault in hopes of carrying it without the Formalities of a Siege, but there was ſo numerous a Garriſon in the Place, and the Perſians defended themſelves ſo obſtinately, that they repulſed the Turks with great Loſs, and have made them defer their Deſign of beſieging it till next Spring. The Paſha of Bagdat had ſent an Account to the Port, that ſince the taking of the Province of Hemedan, he had made himſelf Maſter of another adjoyning to it called Loreſtan, wherein are two conſiderable Cities called Nechevend and Uſudget. The Paſha of Bagdat had alſo ſent Advice, that it was reported there that a ſplendid Embaſſy was coming from Mirveiz to the Grand Signior with very rich Preſents.

Madrid, Dec. 25, *N. S.* On Sunday laſt the Fathers of the Order of Mercy for the Redemption of Captives, made a publick Proceſſion here with thoſe whom they lately brought from Algiers, and paſſed by the Palace where their Catholick Majeſties and the Royal Family ſtood to ſee them. Cardinal Alberoni is to reſign the Biſhoprick of Malaga, to which his Catholick Majeſty intends to promote Father Garcia late General of the Fryars of the Order of St. Francis. Their Catholick Majeſties have declared, that on the 7th of the next Month they will go to the Pardo, where they will divert themſelves with hunting for ſome ſhort time: The Marqueſs de Grimaldo is to attend their Majeſties thither, and all Affairs are to be directed to him by the other Miniſters and Secretaries of State during their Majeſties Stay there.

Whitehall, Jan. 8, 1724-5.

Whereas ſeveral Felons who were to have been tranſported, ſometime ago, from Lincoln Goal to His Majeſty's Plantations in America, made their Eſcape, and Informations have been given that the ſame happened through Connivance; and that ------- Marrat and Silveſter Lill, two of the ſaid Felons, who abſcond, can give a further Account of this pernicious Practice: In order to the more effectual Diſcovery and Puniſhment of ſo heinous an Offence, His Majeſty is graciouſly pleaſed to promiſe His Pardon to the ſaid -------- Marrat and Silveſter Lill, provided they will come in and teſtify their Knowledge of the ſaid Practice, ſo that the Offender or Offenders may be brought to Juſtice and receive condign Puniſhment.

TOWNSHEND.

The Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Revenue of Exciſe deſign to expoſe to Sale in their Court-Room at the Exciſe-Office, London, on Wedneſday the 20th of this Inſtant January, at Three a-Clock in the Afternoon, ſeveral Parcels